



Wisconsin DATCP Issues Advisory for Livestock Entering Wisconsin from New Mexico

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MADISON – New cases of Vesicular Stomatitis (VS) in horses in New Mexico have prompted the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (DATCP) to advise against importing livestock into Wisconsin from New Mexico without first checking to see if they are coming from a VS designated area in New Mexico.

Vesicular Stomatitis is a viral disease, which resembles Foot-and-Mouth, primarily affecting horses, cattle, swine and occasionally sheep and goats. It's characterized by fever and the formation of vesicles, or blisters, in the mouth, nostrils, hooves and teats. When blisters break, there is usually salivation, nasal discharge and anorexia. In three to four days, the animal will recover.

Wisconsin joins several other states who have added requirements to the import of livestock from the affected and surrounding counties of New Mexico.

"Our goal is to protect the health and safety of Wisconsin's livestock," said Dr. Robert Ehlenfeldt, State Veterinarian. "We want to make livestock owners aware of the problem and encourage them to be particularly vigilant about importing horses and other susceptible species from areas with VS."

Anyone who is considering moving livestock from another state into Wisconsin must contact the DATCP Animal Health Division to learn about specific import requirements or check the website at datcp.wi.gov and search "vesicular stomatitis." Staff can be reached by calling (608) 224-4872. For more information about the virus, check the USDA's website at aphis.usda.gov/vs. New Mexico also has up to date information on the location of VS positive cases at <http://www.nmlbonline.com/>

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